Worksheet 2: Uses and Limits of Different Conflict Styles

Competition

Uses

Can protect self
Can be decisive
Can do what is needed
Can give a clear answer
Can follow through

Avoidance

Uses

Time to cool down, gather info. Damage outweighs benefits Response to power imbalance Want others to decide Not the core issues

Accommodation

Uses:

Helps maintain relationship
Obliges the other person
Shows self as reasonable
Responses power imbalance
Allows others to learn from mistakes

Compromise

Uses

Expedient
Default mode
Saves time
Deadlocks broken
Temporary settlement
More important to move on

Collaboration

Uses

Joint gain
Preserves relationships
Allows learning
Gains commitment
Satisfaction

Limits

Others may not provide info Cannot be vulnerable Closed from others inputs Winning preserves identity

Limits

Concerns not dealt with Input not provided Decision-making by default Impotence Paralysis

Limits

Deprives self of influence Own needs not met Resentment Loss of potential Can go with avoidance

Limits

Lose sight of larger picture Doesn't get to the heart Can become cynical Needs not met Superficial solution

Limits

Wastes time Diffuses responsibility